04

EXTENSION OF THE AU PAIR PROGRAM

Y 4. IN 8/16: AU 1

Extension of the Au Pair Program, 1...

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H.R. 2767

DECEMBER 15, 1995

Printed for the use of the Committee on International Relations

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
DEPOSITORY

APR 18 1996

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS DEPARTMENT

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

22-514 CC WASHINGTON : 1996

For sale by the U.S. Government Printing Office
Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office, Washington, DC 20402
ISBN 0-16-052319-2

EXTENSION OF THE AU PAIR PROGRAM

Y 4. IN 8/16: AU 1

Extension of the Au Pair Program, 1...

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H.R. 2767

DECEMBER 15, 1995

Printed for the use of the Committee on International Relations

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
DEPOSITORY
APR 18 1996
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

22–514 CC WASHINGTON : 1996

For sale by the U.S. Government Printing Office
Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office, Washington, DC 20402
ISBN 0-16-052319-2

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, New York, *Chairman*

WILLIAM F. GOODLING, Pennsylvania
JAMES A. LEACH, Iowa
TOBY ROTH, Wisconsin
HENRY J. HYDE, Illinois
DOUG BEREUTER, Nebraska
CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, New Jersey
DAN BURTON, Indiana
JAN MEYERS, Kansas
ELTON GALLEGLY, California
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, Florida
CASS BALLENGER, North Carolina
DANA ROHRABACHER, California
DONALD A. MANZULLO, Illinois
EDWARD R. ROYCE, California
PETER T. KING, New York
JAY KIM, California
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
DAVID FUNDERBURK, North Carolina
STEVEN J. CHABOT, Ohio
MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD, South Carolina
MATT SALMON, Arizona
AMO HOUGHTON, New York

LEE H. HAMILTON, Indiana
SAM GEJDENSON, Connecticut
TOM LANTOS, California
ROBERT G. TORRICELLI, New Jersey
HOWARD L. BERMAN, California
GARY L. ACKERMAN, New York
HARRY JOHNSTON, Florida
ELIOT L. ENGEL, New York
ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA, American Samoa
MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ, California
DONALD M. PAYNE, New Jersey
ROBERT E. ANDREWS, New Jersey
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
SHERROD BROWN, Ohio
CYNTHIA A. McKINNEY, Georgia
ALCEE L. HASTINGS, Florida
ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN, Maryland
MICHAEL R. McNULTY, New York
JAMES P. MORAN, Virginia
VICTOR O. FRAZER, Virgin Islands (Ind.)

RICHARD J. GARON, *Chief of Staff*
MICHAEL H. VAN DUSEN, *Democratic Chief of Staff*
VERONICA CRAIG, *Staff Associate*

CONTENTS

Page

APPENDIX

Prepared statement of Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman 5
Text of H.R. 2767, To extend au pair programs 6

MARKUP OF H.R. 2767, EXTENSION OF THE AU PAIR PROGRAM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1995

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:30 a.m. in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Christopher H. Smith [acting chairman of the committee] presiding.

Mr. SMITH [presiding.] The Committee on International Relations meets in open session, pursuant to notice, to act on H.R. 2767 relating to the extension of the au pair program.

Following what I believe will be a very brief business session, we will then begin our hearing on the situation in Russia and the other new independent states and our assistance programs in that region of the world.

The Chair hopes that this au pair bill will be handled on the floor by unanimous consent perhaps as early as today. If unanimous consent cannot be obtained, we hope to move it on the special calendar early next week.

I want to express my appreciation to the ranking Minority member, Mr. Hamilton, for his cooperation in drafting this legislation. I think all members know he is the prime cosponsor of this bill, along with myself. Of course, Mr. Gilman is the prime sponsor of the bill.

The Chair lays the bill before the committee, and the clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2767, a bill to extend au pair programs.

Mr. SMITH. The clerk will read the bill for amendment.

The CLERK. Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of——

Mr. SMITH. Without objection, the bill will be considered as having been read and is open for amendment at any point. And I would like to recognize myself for a very brief statement and ask that Mr. Gilman's statement be made a part of the record.

[The bill appears in the appendix.]

[The prepared statement of Mr. Gilman appears in the appendix.]

Mr. SMITH. As members of this committee know, USIA's au pair program has been an effective means of giving our young people from overseas an educational year in the United States. It also provides hard-working American families with many hours per week of high quality child care.

Several of our colleagues deserve special credit for their persistent efforts to get this bill before us, especially Bill Baker and my Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights.

During our USIA hearing earlier in the year, it had as one of its featured witnesses Congressman Bill Baker. He spoke very eloquently about the need for a quick reauthorization of the au pair program, and I can tell you, every time I see him on the floor, he is asking when? when? when?, and today is the when.

Frank Wolf and Tom Davis and Jim Moran are also cosponsors of the bill and likewise have been very persistent and dogged in their efforts to get this bill passed.

This Congress has voted three times during the past year to reauthorize the au pair program, in the American Overseas Interest Act, which passed the House in June, and in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, and in the Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriations Act.

Unfortunately, all of those bills have been held up in the Senate or by the White House by other issues that are critically important to this member and other members, but issues not having anything whatsoever to do with the au pair program. The solution clearly is to pass a free-standing au pair reauthorization bill.

This bill was marked up yesterday by my subcommittee. The members had no objections. It was voted on favorably.

At this point I would like to recognize the distinguished ranking member, Mr. Hamilton, if he has any statements on the program.

Mr. HAMILTON. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank you and Chairman Gilman for pushing this bill forward, and I have been pleased to work with you in bringing it to the full committee.

This is an unusual program. I think the existing authority has expired September 30. The fact of the matter is that no Federal agency, I think, really wants responsibility for this program. We have to find some place to put it. I have always thought that it might better go into the Department of Labor than USIA, but it is not altogether clear that it would be better there either. In any event, this is a good proposal, and will extend the program for another 2 years. It is a valuable program.

The bill makes two changes. It opens the program to applicants from countries around the world, and it allows the program to be run by any qualifying organization.

I know that this program brings many very positive experiences both to the au pairs as well as to the host families, and I think it is a prudent and practical approach and I urge its adoption.

If you would like, I would make a motion, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SMITH. I appreciate that. Mr. Johnston would like to make a brief comment.

Mr. JOHNSTON. Just an observation, Mr. Chairman, and not to be flip, but in south Florida when 18-year-old beautiful Swedish girls come in as au pairs, they have broken up more marriages than you can imagine. And I support the bill.

Mr. SMITH. Are there any amendments or any other comments?

If there are no amendments or further speakers, I would like to recognize Mr. Hamilton to make a motion.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Chairman, I move that the chairman or his designee be requested to obtain consideration of the pending measure, as amended, on the House floor, on the suspension calendar or by way of unanimous consent.

I might just say, I see no reason why it can't come up under unanimous consent. That would be great.

Mr. SMITH. The question is on the motion. As many as are in favor say aye.

As many as opposed say no.

The ayes appear to have it. The ayes have it, and the motion is agreed to. Further proceedings on this matter are postponed, and the business meeting on the committee is adjourned, and we will begin our hearing momentarily.

[Whereupon, at 10:35 a.m., the committee proceeded to other business.]

APPENDIX

Statement of Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman
on the Extension of Au Pair Programs

We have before us H.R. 2767 a bill to extend the authority for the au pair program for two years. The authority for the program expired on September 30, 1995. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to pass this extension and allow the program to continue to operate.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has reported their bill, S. 1465, which was passed on the Senate floor Wednesday. There is no difference between the House and Senate bills. The bill before us is a bipartisan measure and I appreciate Mr. Hamilton's assistance in drafting this measure.

The intention of the Committee is to move this bill expeditiously and with the full cooperation of the Senate Committee we hope to quickly send this bill to the President for signature. Many families have been highly inconvenienced and child care plans have been turned upside down by the delay in the extending this program. I strongly urge support for this bill.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 9999 05983 755 7

I

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2767

To extend au pair programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 13, 1995

Mr. GILMAN (for himself, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. DAVIS, Mr. BAKER of California, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. WOLF) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

---

A BILL

To extend au pair programs.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AU PAIR PROGRAMS.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 8 of the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–454) is repealed.

(b) AUTHORITY FOR AU PAIR PROGRAMS.—The Director of the United States Information Agency is authorized to continue to administer an au pair program, operating on a world-wide basis, through fiscal year 1997.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 1996, the Director of the United States Information Agency shall

1 submit a report regarding the continued extension of au
2 pair programs to the Committee on Foreign Relations of
3 the Senate and the Committee on International Relations
4 of the House of Representatives. This report shall specifi-
5 cally detail the compliance of all au pair organizations
6 with regulations governing au pair programs as published
7 on February 15, 1995.

○